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01/22/2003 09:34 AM

To: CWAwaters@EPA

cc:

Subject: ATTN:Docket No. OW-2002-0050 Clean Water Act Changes

I am writing to request very urgently that the EPA ask Congress to restore protection of isolated wetlands, those not meeting the 1972 Clean Water Act's definition of "navigable waters." Nearly one-third of the nation's wetlands fall under the new definition of "isolated." Such wetlands are crucial to flood control and water filtration. They are also an essential source of food and rest for migratory waterfowl. Please delay implementation of the rules until Congress can act.
Margaret V. McAlinden, Sarasota, Fla.